

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1811

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SCUL CH
SUBJECT: ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION - OCTOBER 19 MEETING

REF: A. PEKING 1785 B. STATE 206494 C. STATE 227518

SUMMARY. ACTING CHIEF HOLDRIDGE AND ANDERSON WERE CALLED IN TO MFA BY HSIAO TEH OCTOBER 18 TO RECEIVE PRC RESPONSES TO POINTS RAISED BY U.S. SIDE DURING OCTOBER 15 MEETING (REFTEL A). IN ADDITION, HSIAO RAISED A NUMBER OF DETAILED QUESTIONS CONCERNING PROCEDURAL MATTERS RELATED TO SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS. ON PRESS COVERAGE HSIAO RAISED NEW PROBLEM, REQUESTING THAT FOREIGN NEWSMEN BE EXCLUDED. FINAL TEXTS WILL BE PROVIDED USLO ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 21. END SUMMARY.

1. OCTOBER 18 MEETIG WITH HSIAO TEH COVERED ALL OF THE POINTS RAISED BY U.S. SIDE ON OCTOBER 15, AND WITH A FEW MINOR CHANGES SHOULD WRAP UP NEGOTIATING PHASE OF ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION. ON QUESTION OF DRAFT U.S. PRESS RELEASE, HSIAO SAID THAT IT HAD BEEN STUDIED BY DEPARTMENT CONCERNED AND CHINESE "HAD NO OPINIONS TO PUT FORWARD".

2. TURNING TO EXCHANGE OF LETTERS, HSIAO HAD A NUMBER OF MINOR POINTS TO BE CHANGED OR CORRECTED:

A. WHEREVER NAME OF MR. BUSH OR SECRETARY KISSINGER APPEARS IN THE DOCUMENT CHINESE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IT WRITTEN IN CONFIDENTIAL

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FULL, I.E. HENRY A. KISSINGER AND GEORGE H. W. BUSH.

B. WHEREVER SITES OF EXHIBITION ARE MENTIONED CHINESE WOULD LIKE FULL NAME, INCLUDING STATE, I.E. WASHINGTON, D.C. AND KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

C. IN HEADING OF LETTER CHINESE WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE SALUTATION FROM "EXCELLENCY" TO "YU CHAN, VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA".

3. ON THE PROTOCOL, HSIAO SAID CHINESE SIDE HAS NO OBJECTION FOR FIRST TWO OF THE THREE SUGGESTIONS MADE BY U.S. SIDE, I.E. THOSE CONCERNING CHANGE FROM "IN ACCORDANCE WITH" TO "SUBJECT TO" AND QUESTION OF USE OF TERM "INDIVIDUAL" IN REFERENCE TO VALUATIONS. (PARA 3 A AND B REF B). ON THIRD POINT HSIAO SAID THERE APPEARED TO BE SOME MISUNDERSTANDING. CHINESE INTENT, HE SAID, WAS NOT REPEAT NOT THAT ALL OBJECTS BE PHOTOGRAPHED EVERY TIME THEY ARE HANDED OVER. CHINESE HAVE PREPARED A SET OF PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN IN PEKING PRIOR TO THE EXHIBITION'S DEPARTURE. IT IS AGAINST THESE THAT THE OBJECTS ARE TO BE COMPARED. ONLY IF THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE IN THE CONDITION OF AN OBJECT WILL FURTHER PHOTOGRAPHS BE REQUIRED. LANGUAGE OF U.S. PROPOSED CHANGE, HOWEVER, IMPLIES THAT ALL OBJECTS WILL BE PHOTOGRAPHED. HOLDRIDGE AGREED WITH THIS POINT BUT NOTED WE STILL HAD PROBLEM THAT TWO CITIES WHERE EXAMINATIONS WERE TO BE CONDUCTED WERE NOT SPECIFIED IN THE ENGLISH TEXT. AFTER MUCH CONFUSION AS TO EXACTLY WHAT OUR PROBLEM WAS WE DISCOVERED THAT LATER ENGLISH TEXT OF PROTOCOL FROM WHICH CHINESE WERE WORKING DOES INDEED HAVE THE NAMES AND APPEARS TO SOLVE ALL OF THE PROBLEMS. THEY WILL PROVIDE US WITH THE CORRECT ENGLISH TEXT ON OCTOBER 21.

4. CONCERNING DIPLOMATIC NOTE, HSIAO SAID CHINESE HAD MENTIONED TEN DAYS AS DESIRABLE PERIOD OF TIME FOR RETURN TO PEKING, BUT THEY PREPARED TO GIVE US UP TO THIRTEEN DAYS AS SPECIFIED IN THE NOTE. HOWEVER, UNLESS THERE ARE UNUSUAL PROBLEMS SUCH AS BAD WEATHER CONDITIONS, CHINESE DO NOT WANT TO EXCEED THIRTEEN DAYS.

5. TURNING TO THE FIFTH PARAGRAPH OF THE NOTE DEALING WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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PARTIAL LOSS OR DAMAGE, HSIAO SAID THAT IN CHINESE THERE COULD BE NO QUESTION OF A PARTIAL LOSS; IT'S EITHER LOST OR IT'S NOT, AND THEREFORE THERE IS NO NEED FOR DISCUSSION. IN CASE OF PARTIAL DAMAGE, HOWEVER, HE AGREED THAT AMOUNT OF INDEMNIFICATION COULD BE AGREED UPON THROUGH CONSULTATION. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH REFERENCE TO "LOSS OR DAMAGE" IS STANDARD ENGLISH TERM, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER DROPPING REFERENCE TO LOSS SINCE STATEMENT ON PARTIAL DAMAGE

WOULD APPEAR TO COVER US. HSIAO DID NOT INDICATE HE WOULD INSIST ON THIS HOWEVER.

6. HSIAO INDICATED THESE WERE THE ONLY SUBSTANTIVE POINTS HE WISHED TO RAISE, AND HOLDRIDGE INFORMED HIM THAT U.S. SIDE AGREES TO POINTS HE RAISED IN OCTOBER 15 MEETING AS "ORAL AGREEMENTS". HE POINTED OUT THAT WE WILL CLEAR WITH CHINESE SIDE ALL FILM COVERAGE AND OTHER PUBLICITY OVER WHICH WE HAVE SOME CONTROL, BUT NOTED THAT OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION WILL BE A MAJOR NEWS EVENT AND WE CANNOT CONTROL MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE EXHIBIT, INCLUDING COMMENTARIES. HSIAO SAID PRC RECOGNIZES THAT OBJECTIVE NEWS REPORTS ON THE EXHIBITION WOULD BE A GOOD THING, BUT ON FILM COVERAGE HE WAS CONCERNED THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO TAKE EXHIBITS OUT OF THE CASES AND POSSIBLY SUBJECT THEM TO STRONG LIGHTING. HOLDRIDGE ASSURED HIM THAT SECURITY ASPECTS ARE FOREMOST IN OUR MINDS AND HE NEED HAVE NO CONCERN ON THAT SCORE. HSIAO SUGGESTED U.S. SIDE PREPARE A PLAN FOR MEDIA COVERAGE WHICH COULD BE SHOWN TO PRC SIDE BEFORE SHOW'S OPENING IN WASHINGTON.

7. ADDING YET ANOTHER TWIST, HSIAO SAID THAT ATTENDANCE BY FOREIGN REPORTERS IN WASHINGTON WOULD NOT BE PERMISSABLE AND ADDED THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT THE U.S. SIDE COULD CONTROL THIS. IN RESPONSE TO HOLDRIDGE'S OBSERVATION THAT BOTH THE "WASHINGTON POST" AND "NEW YORK TIMES" HAD COVERED THE TORONTO EXHIBITION, HSIAO SAID THAT IN CASES WHERE THE EXHIBIT IS PROCEEDING TO ANOTHER COUNTRY COVERAGE BY FOREIGN REPORTERS HAS BEEN PERMITTED, BUT IN CASE OF U.S. THE EXHIBIT WILL RETURN TO PEKING SO THE SITUATION IS NOT THE SAME. HOLDRIDGE EXPRESSED RESERVATION ABOUT NEW PRC RESTRICTION, BUT SAID HE WOULD REPORT TO WASHINGTON. COMMENT: CHINESE MAY BE CONCERNED ABOUT ROC PRESS REPRESENTATIVES
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IN WASHINGTON. WE SUGGEST THAT WE NOT RESPOND TO HSIAO'S REMARK AT THIS POINT, BUT RATHER LEAVE THIS TO DISCUSSIONS ON IMPLEMENTATION IN WASHINGTON WHERE SOMEWHAT GREATER FLEXIBILITY IS POSSIBLE. WE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT BY THE END OF THE DISCUSSION ON THIS POINT HE HAD BEGUN TO BACK AWAY SOMEWHAT.

8. HSIAO THEN TURNED TO TECHNICAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE SIGNATURE CEREMONY. HE ASKED FOR U.S. VIEWS ON A DATE, SAID NORMALLY CEREMONY TAKES PLACE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, AND ASKED WHO WOULD PARTICIPATE ON THE U.S. SIDE, INCLUDING AN ASSISTANT TO TURN PAGES ON TEXTS, ETC. HOLDRIDGE TOLD HSIAO WE WOULD PROVIDE ANSWERS AFTER WE HAD DISCUSSED WITH AMBASSADOR BUSH. HSIAO THEN ASKED ABOUT PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTS, AND WE AGREED THAT WE WOULD TYPE U.S. LETTER,

WHILE CHINESE WOULD PREPARE ALL OTHER TEXTS AND
TRANSLATIONS. HSIAO SAID HE WOULD HAVE COPIES FOR US TO EXAMINE BY
OCTOBER 21.
HOLDRIDGE

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